J. Chris Sims

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

MS in Computer Science
May 2016 | Kingston, RI
Dean's List: 2 terms

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

BS in General Biology
May 2007 | Pullman, WA

LINKS

Github:// **jcsims**
LinkedIn:// **jcsims1**
Web:// **jcsi.ms**

COURSEWORK

GRADUATE

Support Vector Machines
Object-Oriented System Design
Theory of Computation
Artificial Intelligence
Compiler Design

UNDERGRADUATE

Software Engineering
Applied Combinatorics
Design & Analysis of Algorithms
Parallel Computing

SKILLS

PROGRAMMING

Proficient:
Clojure • Java • Git • Github
Familiar:
Make • bash • R • C • C# • Perl
LaTeX• Haskell • SQL • Assembly

OBJECTIVE

Continue to expand my knowledge and experience with larger and more complex systems, aiming towards solving hard, interesting problems and working with intriguing people.

EXPERIENCE

STAPLES SPARX (STAPLES INNOVATION LAB)

Principal Software Engineer
April 2015 – Current | San Mateo, CA
Team lead. Led API development across multiple new initiatives, handling initial design and implementation, external team coordination/integration, QA team coordination and testing guidance, and coordination/implementation of internal service communication. Inherited a legacy codebase with a failing test suite, no production monitoring, and no performance testing. Alongside regular feature and refactoring work, pushed for and implemented automated performance testing, production monitoring, dashboards, alerting, fixed and extended end-to-end tests, and grew to serving 2k+ requests/sec. SparX lead for migration from AWS infrastructure to a Staples private cloud — migrated ~200 servers with only 1.5 hours of downtime. Main technologies: Clojure, Make, Bash, Git, Perl, Java, AWS, PostgreSQL.

CHARLES RIVER ANALYTICS

Software Engineering Intern
March 2013 – May 2013 | Cambridge, MA
Designed and built a first phase prototype that leveraged semantic reasoning, natural language processing, parallel computing, and semantic web services to provide intelligent answers to hard problems.

THE SEARCH AGENCY

Software Engineering Intern
May 2012 – Aug 2012 | East Greenwich, RI
Designed a built a new internal product used for data entry and validation on a team of three interns. Technologies used include Java, GWT, git, MySQL, Eclipse, and Pulse.

US ARMY RESERVE

Preventive Medicine Technician, Health Services System Manager
August 2003 – June 2015 | US, Iraq | Rank: Captain
Leader, responsible for professional and personal development of subordinates, guided and advised commander on issues related to all telecommunications capabilities and assets. Volunteered for a deployment to Iraq as a Battalion Special Staff Officer, in charge of a Battalion Aid Station and 52 Battalion medics.

THESIS RESEARCH

Deep Belief Networks using Restricted Boltzmann Machines

Documents the study of Deep Belief Networks as described by Dr. Geoffrey Hinton, and the implementation of Restricted Boltzmann Machines, Deep Belief Networks, and Deep Neural Networks as a machine learning library in the Clojure programming language. The results of the study (the library `deebn`) are open source and published on Github.